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# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office

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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

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EXAMINER

FIRST MAY 1

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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DATE MAILED:

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks** 

## Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/403,912

Applicant(s)

Karhunen et al.

Examiner

José A. Fortuna

Art Unit

1731



The MAILING DATE of this communication appe	ears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address
Period for Reply	
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS STHE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this commit	37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed sunication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) d	days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statute communication.	ory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this
<ul> <li>Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will</li> <li>Any reply received by the Office later than three months after earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</li> </ul>	II, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133), rithe mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
Status	
	8, 1999
2a) $\square$ This action is FINAL. 2b) $\overline{X}$ This	action is non-final.
3) $\square$ Since this application is in condition for allowand closed in accordance with the practice under $Ex$	ce except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is a parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
Disposition of Claims	
4) X Claim(s) 1-26	is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above, claim(s)	is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)	is/are allowed.
6) 💢 Claim(s) <u>1-26</u>	is/are rejected.
	is/are objected to.
	are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.
Application Papers	
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.	
10) The drawing(s) filed on <u>Oct 28, 1999</u> is/s	
	is: a) approved b) disapproved.
12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Exa	
,	sitting.
<b>riority under 35 U.S.C. § 119</b> 13} <b>⊠ Acknowled</b> gement is made of a claim for foreign	
	n priority under 35 U.S.C. 3 119(a)-(a).
_	er en
1. X Certified copies of the priority documents h	
2. Copies of the certified copies of the priority	
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bu *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of	
(4) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domes	
ttachment(s)	
5) X Notice of References Cited PTO 892	16)
8) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent (Frawing Review (PTO-948)	19) factice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
7) 💢 Information Disclosure Statement's (PTO-1449: Paper No.s). 3	20° Or ac

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#### DETAILED ACTION

#### **Drawings**

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "13" has been used to designate a "soft roll coating," page 5, line 19, a "coating," in page 5, line 31 and a "roll coating," in page 6, line 1. It is suggested to use "soft roll coating" in every instance. Correction is required.

### Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

- 2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
  - The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
- 3. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 1 and 9, the phrase "an additional weight," lacks of sufficient antecedent basis. because it implies that there is/are other weight(s), and those have not been previously recited. In claims 4 and 12, the phrase "has been made as desired" renders the claim vague and confusing, since frequencies are not made, but obtained. It is suggested to change the phrase to a language such as, "when the tuning frequency desired has been obtained. .." Note that this is just a suggestion which should not interpreted as a "requirement." Regarding claims 8, 20 and 25, the phrase "or equivalent" renders the claim(s) indefinite because the claim(s) include(s) elements not

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actually disclosed (those encompassed by "or equivalent"), thereby rendering the scope of the claim(s) unascertainable. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

#### Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 5. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Arnhold et al., US Patent No. 5,096,541.

Regarding claims 1, 3 and 9, Arnhold et al. teach a method and device to damp the vibrations on a paper-making machine. Arnhold et al. teach that the dampening is done by the use of system which detects the natural frequency of the vibrating system, and damp the vibration by moving a mass, weight, see abstract and column 1, line 60 through column 2, line 14 and column 2, line 57 through column 3, line 4. Arnhold et al., also teach that the device can be used to damping the vibration on different parts of a papermaking machine, such as breastboxes, frames and the mounting of rotating mass, rollers, etc., see column 4, lines 14-27 and more specifically in column 3, line 58 through column 4, line 3. It seems that Arnhold et al. invention teach all the limitations of the claims or at least the minor modifications to obtain the system would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Regarding claims 2 and 10, Arnhold et al., teach a control unit which can contain a device to analyze the frequencies of vibration of the structure and

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can separate the vibrating natural forms and can determine the kinematic quantities of the additional mass relative to the corresponding natural forms, see column 2, line 57 through column 3, line 4. Regarding claims 4. 5, 12 and 17, even though Arnhold et al. are silent with respect to locking mechanism of the additional mass weight, this is either inherent to their invention or at least would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, since the mass/weight Must be retained in the selected position so that the vibrations of the vibrating equipment do not move the mass/weight withing the system and doing so changing the desired frequency of the dampening system. Regarding claims 6-8, 11, 13-16, 18-26, Arnhold et al. suggest in abstract that the force effect of the servo motor can be caused by a pressure medium by piezo crystals or by magnetostrictive elements, i.e. the spring of the of the dynamic damper can be made of the different disclosed elements, see also column 3, lines 35-57. While the specifics of how the elements act, the manner in which the disclose elements function is very well known in the art and equivalent to the ones claimed. Note that Arnhold et al. show in the figures a mass (3) which moves along a horizontal rod, see figure 1, a hydraulic piston (2) in figure 3, and piezo crystal and/or an electromagnet (9, 10, 4, 2) in figure 4.

#### Conclusion

- 6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure in the art of "Paper Machine Dampening Mechanisms."
- 7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to José Fortuna, whose telephone number is (703)305-7498. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stanley S. Silverman, can be reached on (703)308-3837. The fax number for this group is (703)305-7115.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0661.

When filing a FAX in group 1730, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communication with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

José A. Fortuna May 10, 2001

> JOSÉ FORTUNA PATENT EXAMINER ART UNIT 1731